Butterflies on the Greek island of Santorini (Thera), end August 1991 (Lepidoptera: Hesperioidea & Papilionoidea)

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Samenvatting. De dagvlinders van het Griekse eiland Santorini (Thera), einde augustus 1991 (Lepidoptera : Hesperioidea & Papilionoidea)
Na een korte uiteenzetting over de geografische ligging van het eiland Santorini (Cycladen Griekenland) en de er heersende klimatologische omstandigheden, meldt de auteur zijn persoonlijke waarnemingen gedaan op dit eiland op 23 en 24 augustus 1991. In totaal worden 12 soorten vermeld.

Résumé. Les papillons de l'île grecque de Santorini (Thera), fin août 1991 (Lepidoptera : Hesperioidea & Papilionoidea)
Après un bref exposé de la position géographique et des conditions ambiantes régnant sur l'île de Santorini (Cyclades, Grèce), l'auteur fait état de ses observations personelles de papillons sur cette île les 23 et 24 août 1991. 12 espèces sont mentionnées.

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The island of Santorini, also known as Thera, is the southernmost major island of the Cyclades group. It is situated in the Aegean sea at a latitude of 36°24' North and its distance from the closest points on the Greek mainland and Asia Minor is 176 and 168 km respectively, whilst its distance from the closest major Cycladic islands, Ios and Anafi, is 20 and 22 km respectively. The island's area is 76 km^2 and its highest mountain, Profitis Ilias, has an altitude of 584 metres and is composed of metamorphic rock.

Santorini, together with two other lesser islands, are the remnants of what used to be the rim of a volcano, whose crater at present is submerged under the sea at a mean depth of about 300 metres. As a consequence of past violent volcanic action the island is now covered with lava, tuff and volcanic ash. Santorini is presently to a great extent intensively cultivated and rather densely populated, conditions which have seriously affected its natural flora and fauna. This situation, combined with the fact that the island is often struck by severe winds, account for its poor lepidopterous fauna.

Collecting took place on August 23rd and 24th, near Episkopi, at the base of Mt. Profitis Ilias, facing East, at an altitude of about 50 to 100 metres. This area possesses natural vegetation (Garrigue), intermixed with cultivations of tomatoes, figs, pistachios and mulberries. The following butterflies were recorded:

1. ***Papilio machaon*** LINNAEUS, 1758. One captured and one seen, both flying in the vicinity of *Ferula chilianthe* Rech.fil. and feeding on flowers of *Heliotropium*.

2. ***Pieris brassicae*** (LINNAEUS, 1758). Several seen and one captured.

3. ***Artogeia rapae*** (LINNAEUS, 1758). A few seen and one captured. Observed ovipositing on *Capparis*.

4. ***Pontia (daplidice) edusa*** (FABRICIUS, 1777). Forming small colonies in the vicinity of an unidentified yellow-flowered Cruciferae plant. Adults seen

feeding both on this plant as well as on *Heliotropium*. Females seen ovipositing on the former plant.

5. ***Vanessa atalanta*** (LINNAEUS, 1758). Several observed.

6. ***Vanessa cardui*** (LINNAEUS, 1758). Present in fair numbers.

7. ***Polygonia egea*** (CRAMER, 1775). A few seen and one captured. Observed feeding on the juices of over-ripe figs.

8. ***Maniola jurtina*** (LINNAEUS, 1758). Only females recorded and several captured. All found in shady situations, under dense fig trees and inside a shallow cave with dense shrubs and climbing plants. The butterflies seemed quite inert and were flushed by beating the plants.

9. ***Hipparchia ?aristaeus*** (BONELLI, 1826). A single male seen under a fig tree, but not captured. The specimen was fresh despite the advanced season. It is assumed to have been an *aristaeus* on the basis of records of it from other islands in the Cyclades group, where it is the only *Hipparchia* present.

10. ***Lycaena phlaeas*** (LINNAEUS, 1761). A series of both males and females captured, some feeding on *Heliotropium*. All belonging to the dark form *elea* FABRICIUS.

11. ***Lampides boeticus*** (LINNAEUS, 1767). A single male captured while feeding on *Heliotropium*.

12. ***Carcharodus alceae*** (ESPER, [1780]). A single small and very worn male captured.

Of the twelve species recorded perhaps no more than half are true residents, these being *machaon, egea, jurtina, aristaeus, phlaeas* and *alceae*. The rest are known to be habitual migrants, but they may also be able to breed on Santorini, creating either temporary or permanent colonies.

Korte mededeling

Phytometra viridaria (CLERCK, 1759) toch ook in het Antwerpse (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)

Tijdens mijn onderzoek naar de Antwerpse Noctuidae in de Belgische verzameling van het K.B.I.N. ontdekte ik drie exemplaren van *Phytometra viridaria* (CLERCK, 1759). De gegevens ervan zijn nergens in de literatuur te vinden, zodat kan verondersteld worden dat de soort als nieuw voor de provincie Antwerpen beschouwd mag worden.

Het dier leeft vooral in het zuiden en oosten van ons land. Ook daar is het lokaal en niet gewoon! Enkel aan de kust zijn enkele vindplaatsen gegeven. Meestal slechts één generatie : van april tot juli, soms kan een partiële generatie voorkomen in augustus. De rups leeft op *Polygala*-soorten en op *Sarothamnus scoparius* L. (zie HACKRAY & SARLET 1979).

De vindplaatsen in het Antwerpsen zijn : Kalmthout 23.V.1937 O. & M. VAN ACKER en Schilde 15.V.1908 en 19.V.1909 beide A. GUIARD.

Bibliografie

Hackray,J. & Sarlet,L.G., 1979. Catalogue des Macrolépidoptères de Belgique - Supplément à *Lambillionea* **79**: 476-477.

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